

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): DODD, SIMON

Confirmation No.: 9553

Application No.: 10/055,161

Examiner: LATTIN, C.W.

Filing Date: Oct 26, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2812

Title: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT MANUFACTURING

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- () under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of national application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- (X) under 37 CFR 1.97 (c) together with either a:
(X) Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
() a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
(After the CFR 1.97 (b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- () under 37 CFR 1.97 (d) together with a:
() Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) or (2), and
() a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
(Filed after final action, a notice of allowance, on or before payment of the issue fee)

Please charge to Deposit Account **08-2025** the sum of \$0.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **08-2025** pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

(X) Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449 - Information Disclosure Statement together with any required copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56. (Any required copies of patents, publications or other information are being submitted by mail only.)

() A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individuals(s) designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

- (X) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Date of Deposit: Nov 13, 2003

AND

- (X) I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number (703) 308-6916 on Nov 13, 2003
Number of pages:

Typed Name: Colett M. Angle

Signature: Collette M. Angle

Respectfully submitted,

DODD, SIMON

By

Peter J. Reitan

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 48,603

Date: Nov 13, 2003

Telephone No.: (949) 640-6200



FORM PTO-1449

LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR
APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

100110412-1

APPLICATION NO.

10/055,161

CONFIRMATION NO.

9553

APPLICANT

DODD, SIMON

FILING DATE

Oct 26, 2001

GROUP

2812

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	NAME	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figures Appear
	1A	5,903,031	May 11, 1999	Yamada et al.	
	1B	6,072,221	Jun 6, 2000	Hieda	
	1C	6,107,670	Aug 22, 2000	Masuda	
	1D	2002/0125539	Sep 12, 2002	Oguchi	
	1E				
	1F				
	1G				
	1H				
	1I				
	1J				
	1K				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT	Pages/Columns/Lines Where Relevant Passages/Figures Appear	Check if Translation attached
	1L					
	1M					
	1N					
	1O					
	1P					

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	1Q	Partial European Search Report dated 15 October 2003; Application No. 02 02 3965
	1R	
	1S	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
DODD, SIMON)	Art Unit: 2812
Serial No. 10/055,161)	Examiner: Lattin, C.W.
Filed: 10/26/2001)	
For: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR)	
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT)	
MANUFACTURING)	

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. Applicants respectfully petition and request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form. Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Each document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from the European Patent Office ("EPO") in a related foreign application. A copy of the EPO communication is also attached. To the best of our knowledge, each item of information set out on the PTO 1449 was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the mailing date of this document.

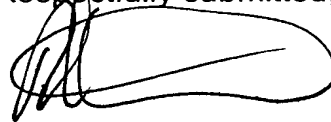
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art"

under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, authorization to charge Deposit Account 08-2025 is set out in the Request for Continued Examination.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter Reitan
Registration No. 48,603

Dated: 11/13/03

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